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through in one of his journeys in China. This would be a subject of interest to the President and to Colonel Yule. Journeys had also been made by Mr. Lees and Mr. Williamson to Sigan-fu, in Shensi, where they had seen the celebrated Christian inscription erected about the year 1200 A.D.; by Mr. Morrison, from Peking to Hankow, and by various consuls, merchants, and missionaries throughout the length and breadth of the empire.

Mr. SAUNDERS wished to correct an inaccuracy in Mr. Elias' paper, and to allude to a previous journey to the new course of the Yellow River. Mr. Elias remarked that the new course of the Yellow River had never yet found its way into modern maps. He begged to say that it had done so in several maps that he was acquainted with; and that the information was derived from the journey of Mr. Morrison, son of the famous Dr. Morrison. He touched the new course of the Yellow River at various points by land, and effectually fixed its direction. Mr. Morrison had partly prepared a paper on his journey, but he had been unable hitherto to lay it before the Geographical Society owing to his feeble health.

The PRESIDENT congratulated the Society upon the importance of the discussion which had followed the reading of Mr. Elias' admirable paper. With regard to what had fallen from Mr. Saunders, no doubt it was quite right to render all honour to Mr. Morrison for what he had done; but no one, that he had ever heard of, had delineated the new course of the river as Mr. Elias had done. He agreed with Captain Sherard Osborn that the great internal water-communication of China was now much better known to us, owing to modern English explorers; and he could only add that, if there was any country in the world where civil engineers could be most successfully and serviceably employed, this was the region, where by erecting comparatively little mounds of earth they could deflect the channel of the rivers, and so materially affect the conditions of the whole surface of the country. The physical features of China under consideration, *i.e.*, those great alluvial plains which were the characteristics of the country, were chiefly due to the action of great rivers, and very slight deviations necessarily produced great changes in flat and undulating regions. As an old geologist, however, he retained his former opinion that the great alterations in the configuration of the earth's surface were brought about by causes on a very different scale indeed from those which operate now. The physical changes which were taking place in China, though considerable in extent of surface, were puny in comparison with the grand agencies of elevation and subsidence which were at work in former times.

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*Third Meeting, December 13th, 1869.*

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in  
the Chair.

PRESENTATIONS.—*Theophilus Horrex, Esq. ; B. C. Stephenson, Esq. ; Iltudus T. Pritchard, Esq.*

ELECTIONS.—*Richard Vicars Boyle, Esq., M.I.C.E., &c. ; George Frederick Browning, Esq. ; Louis Blacker, Esq. ; William H. Colville, Esq. (Surgeon H.M. Indian Army) ; Douglas W. Freshfield, Esq. ; Dr. Andrew Graham (Staff-Surgeon R.N.) ; Charles Horne, Esq. ; Alexander Bennett M<sup>c</sup>Grigor, Esq. ; T. G. A. Palmer, Esq. ; James*

*Reiss, Esq. ; Joseph Marcus Rice, Esq., M.D. ; James V. Shaw, Esq. ; William Robert Ward, Esq. ; James Shearer Wichelow, Esq.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY FROM NOVEMBER 22ND TO DECEMBER 13TH, 1869.—‘C. F. v. Martius. Ein Lebensbild.’ Von Dr. H. Schramm. Lockhart’s ‘Medical Missionary in China, 1861.’ Donor, the Rev. J. G. Wood. ‘Sketches of North America and the Oregon Territory.’ By Captain H. Warre. Donor, the author. ‘The Water Supply of Jerusalem, Ancient and Modern.’ By J. I. Whitty. Donor, the author. ‘Journal of an Overland Journey from China to India—the Plains of Hopeh.’ By T. J. Cooper. Calcutta, 1869. Donor, the author. ‘Scenery of Scotland, in Connexion with its Physical Geology.’ By A. Geikie. 1865. Purchased. ‘Scenery of England and Wales, &c.’ By D. Mackintosh. 1869. Purchased. ‘Reise in das Gebiet des Weissen Nil in 1862-64.’ Von M. Th. v. Heuglin. Leipzig, 1869. Donor, the author. ‘The Antiquities of Cambodia’ (Photograph Illustrations). 1867. By J. Thompson. Purchased. ‘Travels in Mantchu Tartary.’ By G. Fleming. 1863. Purchased. ‘Yeddo and Pekin.’ By R. Fortune. 1863. Purchased. ‘Ancient Sea Margins.’ By R. Chambers. 1848. Purchased. ‘Dyaks of Borneo.’ By F. Boyle. 1865. Purchased. ‘Les Naufrages (Iles Auckland).’ Par F. E. Raynal. Paris, 1870. Donor, the President. ‘Rhone et Danube.’ Par E. Des Jardins. Paris, 1870. Donor, the author.

ACCESSIONS TO THE MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF NOVEMBER 22ND, 1869.—Map of the Suez Canal, &c. By A. K. Johnston. Presented by the author. Central America, Costarica. By A. Frantzius. A Map of the North and South Polar Regions, showing the Routes of Explorers. A Map of the Basin of the Nile, from Alexandria to Lake Albert Nyanza. By M. Heuglin. A Map of Turkey in Europe. All presented by A. Petermann, Esq.

The PRESIDENT opened the business of the meeting by the following remarks on the subject of a letter from Dr. Livingstone to Dr. Kirk, written at Ujiji, May 30, 1869, which had appeared in the newspapers of the morning:—

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\* The following is a correct copy of this letter, as communicated to the Society by the India Office:—

*From Dr. David Livingstone to John Kirk, Esq., Political Agent, Zanzibar.*

Dated 30th May, 1869.

“This note goes by Musa Kamaals, who was employed by Koorji to drive the buffaloes hither, but by overdriving them unmercifully in the sun and tying them up to save trouble in herding, they all died before he got to Unyanyembe. He witnessed the plundering of my goods, and got a share of them, and I have given him beads and cloth sufficient to buy provisions for himself on the way back to Zanzibar. He has done nothing here. He neither went near the goods here, nor